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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 7008

BILL NUMBER: HB 1279

NOTE PREPARED: Jan 12, 2008

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: ISTEP for Students with Disabilities.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Simms

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
DEDICATED
X FEDERAL

IMPACT: State

Summary of Legislation: The bill provides that a child with a disability may participate in ISTEP testing only if the individuals who develop the child's individualized education program determine the testing is appropriate for the child.

Effective Date: July 1, 2008.

Explanation of State Expenditures: *Summary-* If fewer special education students take the ISTEP as a result of the bill, the bill could reduce the number of ISTEP tests produced in a given school year. Any savings this provision could produce is indeterminable and would depend on the effect this provision could have on individualized education programs of each special education student.

Background- ISTEP Math and English examinations are currently offered to special education students Grade 3 to Grade 9 and the graduation examination. The ISTEP science is offered to special education students in Grades 5 and 7. ISTEP examinations are funded in part by the state General Fund and part by federal funds from the No Child Left Behind Act.

The following table illustrates the aggregate performance of all special education students that took the ISTEP during the fall of 2007.

Special Education Disaggregation Category	Total Tested English	Percent Passing English	Total Tested Math	Percent Passing Math	Total Tested Science	Percent Passing Science
With Accommodations	68,555	22%	67,852	34%	16,975	25%
Without Accommodations	25,636	62%	26,339	67%	6,857	53%
Total	94,191	33%	94,191	43%	23,832	33%

As of the fall 2007 testing session, out of all students tested, approximately 67% of the current tenth-grade class (graduating class of 2009-2010) received a score at or above the academic standard on the English portion of the graduation examination and 66% received a score at or above the academic standard on the Mathematics portion. By comparison, of 10th grade special education students tested, 18% of those with accommodations passed and 39% without accommodations passed the math portion. Additionally, 23% of 10th grade special education students with accommodations and 43% without accommodations passed the English portion.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Department of Education.

Local Agencies Affected: Schools.

Information Sources: Department of Education.

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